

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following:

[0017] FIG. 2 shows a caterpillar traction apparatus according to the present invention, which comprises an upper half 120 and a lower half 130 that co-operate to advance a linear member 40, such as an extruded tube, pipe or cable. The upper half 120 comprises a first belt 121, first and second pulleys 122, 123 and a plurality of compression rollers 124, 125, 126, 127, 128. The first belt 121 has a soft rubber outer layer in order to increase the grip on the linear member 40 being driven by the apparatus and a tread pattern on the inner surface to increase the traction between the first belt and the first and second pulleys. Both the first pulley 122 and the second pulley 123 are driven pulleys, which have a respective driveable connection with a motor (~~not shown~~) M1 and M2, respectively. The compression rollers 124-128 are free to rotate but act to urge the first belt against the linear member 40.

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following:

[0018] The lower half is of a similar construction to the upper half and comprises a second belt 131, third and fourth pulleys 132, 133 and a plurality of compression rollers 134, 135, 136, 137, 138. The second belt 131 has a soft rubber outer layer and a tread pattern on its inner surface, in a similar manner to the first belt. The third pulley 132 and fourth pulley 133 are driven pulleys, which have a respective driveable connection with a motor (~~not shown~~) M3 and M4, respectively. The compression rollers 134-138 are free to rotate but act to urge the second belt against the linear member 40. Both sets of compression rollers, 124-128 & 134-138 act in a direction that is substantially normal to the linear member being passed through the apparatus